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SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS: ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EU'S CASPIAN
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

REF: STATE 2532

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED; PLEASE PROTECT ACCORDINGLY.

(SBU) Dutch energy officials appreciate U.S. support for the proposed Caspian Development Corporation (CDC). Discussing reftel points, the GONL's international energy security expert Bert Roukens told Econoff the Netherlands wanted to see greater EU coordination to spur upstream development in the Caspian region. He was hopeful the CDC concept would help the various Caspian players overcome jurisdictional disputes preventing faster development. In this spirit, Roukens said Minister for Economic Affairs (MEA) Maria van der Hoeven plans to visit Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan in [1](#)2009. (Note: The MEA has lead responsibility for energy issues in the Dutch government. End note.)

GALLAGHER